

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00653 230833Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 ACDA-07 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 MC-02  
IO-13 IGA-02 /100 W  
-----231513Z 092797 /43

R 230722Z APR 77  
FM USINT BAGHDAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4433  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANAKARA  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0653

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT IZ  
SUBJECT: IRAQI MILITARY OFFENSIVE AGAINST KURDISH INSURGENTS

REF: BAGHDAD 613

USUALLY RELIABLE USINT SOURCE RECENTLY HAD LENGTHY  
CONVERSATION WITH IRAQI ARMY OFFICERS WHO ARE ON LEAVE  
FROM MILITARY OPERATION IN NORTHERN IRAQ. OFFICERS  
STATED THAT MAJOR CLASH WITH KURDISH INSURGENTS HAD  
TAKEN PLACE MARCH 28 AND 29. REMAINING INSURGENTS WERE  
NOW CORNERED NEAR ROST, IN MOUNTAINS BETWEEN THE BARBAZIN  
AND SHINAK PASSES NEAR THE IRANIAN BORDER. DURING THE  
CLASH, THREE OFFICERS AND 48 GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS WERE  
KILLED OR SERIOUSLY WOUNDED. THE LEVEL OF KURDISH  
CASUALTIES WAS SEVERAL TIMES THE GOVERNMENT FIGURE,  
AND KURDS HAVE BEEN SURRENDERING AT A RATE OF 10 TO 150  
PER DAY. INTERROGATION OF CAPTURED KURDS SHOWS THAT  
THEY ARE UNDERPAID OR HAVE NOT BEEN PAID FOR MONTHS,  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00653 230833Z

THAT THEY OBTAIN THEIR FOOD FROM LOOTING, THAT THEY HAVE  
LIMITED SUPPLIES OF SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION AND THAT  
THEY HAVE NO HEAVY WEAPONS AT ALL. AFTER LEARNING THAT  
THE KURDS LACKED HEAVY WEAPONS, GOVERNMENT FORCES BEGAN  
EMPLOYING HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS.

2. THE OFFICERS WHO SPOKE TO OUR SOURCE STATED THAT

IRAQI AUTHORITIES ARE NOW CONVINCED THAT NO GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING SYRIA, IS BEHIND THE INSURGENTS. TURKISH BORDER CONTINUES TO BE QUIET WITH A 15 KM. FREEFIRE AREA HAVING BEEN ESTABLISHED ON EACH SIDE OF THE LINE. THE IRANIAN BORDER IS ALSO QUIET, AND IRANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE COOPERATING BY REMOVING IRANIAN KURDS FROM VILLAGES NEAR THE BORDER. THE SYRIAN BORDER PRESENT NO PROBLEM EXCEPT FOR A SHORT STRIP OF MOUNTAINS NEAR FAYSH KHABUR, WHERE GOI TROOPS ARE NOW TRYING TO ESTABLISH CONTROL.

3. DURING THE COURSE OF THIS CAMPAIGN, THE OFFICERS SAID, THE ARMY HAS BEEN ENTERING AREAS WHERE GOI OFFICIALS HAVE NOT BEEN SEEN FOR DECADES. THEY ARE SUPPORTED BY A CRASH ROAD BUILDING PROGRAM IN WHICH 50 PERCENT OF ALL ROAD BUILDING EQUIPMENT IN THE COUNTRY IS PRESENTLY IN THE NORTH. THEY ANTICIPATE FULL PACIFICATION BY JULY.

4. SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT ALMOST ALL OF THE KURDS RESETTLED IN SOUTHERN IRAQ HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN THE OPTION OF RETURNING NORTH, AND MANY HAVE ELECTED TO DO SO. ONLY A FEW, WHO WERE CONSIDERED "REBEL LEADERS", HAVE BEEN BARRED FROM RETURNING.

WILEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KURDS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 23-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BAGHDA00653  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770142-0704  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BAGHDAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770426/aaaaawhk.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 14f216a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BAGHDAD 613  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2715103  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IRAQI MILITARY OFFENSIVE AGAINST KURDISH INSURGENTS  
**TAGS:** PINT, MOPS, PINS, IZ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/14f216a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009